

lake-dwellers were much smaller than ours; in form and size they approach much more closely to *Linum perenne*, Linn., a species which still grows in the wild state in Germany; so that we might conclude that our common flax is a form produced by cultivation from the *L. perenne*.

A great number of remains of wild plants have also been recognized. The following species of eatable fruits and tubers have been observed:—1. Raspberries (*Rubus idæus*, Linn.); 2. Strawberries (*Fragaria vesca*, Linn.), of which the seeds are found in masses; 3. the Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), the berries already serving for the preparation of cakes; 4. the fruit of *Trapa natans*, which was formerly widely diffused, but is now an almost extinct plant among us; 5. a great quantity of nuts, belonging to the two forms which have been recently distinguished—*Corylus avellana*, Linn., and *C. glandulosa ovata*, Willd.; 6. seeds and leaves of the beech (*Fagus sylvatica*, Linn.), indicating the abundant use of the fruit of that tree; 7th and lastly, the peculiar tubers of a plant similar to our *Equisetum Telmateja*, Linn., which is very rich in starch, serving, no doubt, as food for the inhabitants, as it is likewise found carbonized among the grains of wheat.

Of weeds, we find at Robenhausen the carbonized capsules of a *Silene* and of the poppy (*Papaver Rhæas*, Linn.), which still occur in our country.

At Robenhausen, as previously at Meilen, much amadou (*Polyporus igniarius*) is found, and at Parma also *Dædalea quercina*. Of the conifers three have been found—the berries of the common juniper (*Juniperus communis*, Linn.), trunks or wood of the pine (*Pinus sylvestris*, Linn., and *P. montana*, Duroi) and the fir (*Abies excelsa*, DC.). Of the yew (*Taxus baccata*, Linn.) bows were made. Of deciduous trees there are, besides the hazel and the beech, the witch-elm, the oak, the lime-tree (much bast), the holly, and the dogwood.

Of aquatic plants, the seeds of *Scirpus lacustris*, *Ceratophyllum demersum*, *Potamogeton*, *Polygonum hydropiper*, *Galium*, *Pedicularis*, *Menyanthes*, *Nymphæa alba*, *Nuphar luteum*, and *N. pumilum* are found in great abundance.—*Bibl. Univ.* Oct. 1864, p. 160.

*On some Norwegian Crustacea.* By M. G. O. SARS.

M. Sars has made some curious observations on the persistence in the Scandinavian lakes of certain marine Entomostraca of the glacial epoch. *Harpacticus chelifer* was found in a freshwater lake in the neighbourhood of Christiansund. In the Mjæsen lake (the largest in Norway) he discovered two species of *Cythere*, *Mysis relicta*, Lov., and *Gammarus cancelloides*, Gerstfeldt; the two latter species were also found by Lovén in the Swedish lakes. In ponds of the environs of Christiania the Amphipod *Pontoporeia affinis* was discovered. These species all inhabit the deepest parts of the water, and live quite separate from the true freshwater forms of Crustacea. M. Sars considers the presence of these Crustacea in the Scandinavian lakes to furnish evidence that at the glacial epoch the basin of the Baltic was in communication with either the eastern or western Arctic ocean.—*Bibl. Univ.* Sept. 20, 1864, *Bull. Sci.* p. 84.